

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 00375 282139Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 /012 W
-----290930Z 096048 /20
R 282044Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3946
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

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SANTO DOMINGO FOR RSO

EO 11652 N/A
TAGS: ASEC, HA
SUBJECT: CHANGE IN LEVEL OF GUARD SERVICE

REF: STATE 003036

1. IN RESPONSE TO PARA 2, REFTEL, POST CONCURS THAT REDUCTION OF GUARD HOURS FROM 72 TO 42 IS A FORM OF INCREASED COMPENSATION IN ITSELF. HOWEVER, BY INCREASING SALARIES AT A TIME WHEN LOCAL PRICES HAVE RISEN RAPIDLY, WE BELIEVE THAT WE CAN EFFECTIVELY DETER THE NEEDS OF GUARDS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE LARGE FAMILIES, TO "MOONLIGHT" AT SECOND PART-TIME JOBS IN ORDER TO MAKE ENDS MEET.

2. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ADDRESSES TOPICS RAISED IN PARA 3, REFTEL.

A. LOCATION OF GUARD POSTS AND HOURS OF COVERAGE.

LOCATION	NO. OF GUARDS	HOURS OF DUTY
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EMBASSY RESIDENCE	1	0600-1800
	3	1800-0600

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DCM RESIDENCE	1	0600-1800
	1	1800-0600
CHANCERY	1	1600-2400
	1	2400-0800

CONSULAR ANNEX	1	0600-1800
1	1800-0600	
ADMIN. OFF. RESIDENCE	1	1800-0600
CONSULAR OFF. RESID.	1	1800-0600
POL. OFF. RESIDENCE	1	1800-0600
ECON. OFF. RESIDENCE	1	1800-0600
MARINE HOUSE	1	1800-0600
NCOIC RESIDENCE	1	1800-0600
CAO RESIDENCE	1	1800-0600
STAFF APARTMENTS	1	1800-0600

ADDITIONALLY, FIVE GUARDS ARE EMPLOYED TO COVER "SWING" SHIFT AT ABOVE LOCATIONS AS WELL AS ABSENCES DUE TO VACATIONS OR ILLNESS. ONE GUARD IS EMPLOYED ON A PART-TIME BASIS TO COVER THE PAO RESIDENCE.

B. WEAPONS, UNIFORMS, AND EQUIPMENT

GUARDS ARE PROVIDED KHAKI UNIFORMS WITH CAPS THAT ARE VERY SIMILAR TO UNIFORMS WORN BY HAITIAN ARMY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERSONNEL AND ARE ARMED WITH EITHER BATONS OR MACHETES.

C. ARREST OR OTHER LEGAL POWERS

GUARD PERSONNEL ARE PERMITTED TO SUBDUE AND DETAIN INTRUDERS FOUND TRESPASSING PENDING THE ARRIVAL OF POLICE OFFICIALS.

D. COMMUNICATIONS.

ALL GUARD POSTS HAVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC TELEPHONES. FURTHERMORE, CONTRACT GUARD SUPERVISOR INSPECTS GUARD POSTS AT LEAST TWICE NIGHTLY.

E. UTILIZATION OF SECURITY DEVICES.

CURRENT CONTRACT CALLS FOR GUARD SERVICE ONLY AT GOVERNMENT OWNED OR LEASED PROPERTIES. ALL

LEASED RESIDENCES ARE LOCATED IN FULLY DEVELOPED RESIDENTIAL AREAS AND ARE COMPLETELY FENCED OR WALLED. ALL ARE PROVIDED WITH SUITABLE LOCKS AND MOST HAVE GRILLED WINDOWS AND SECURITY LIGHTING. THE EMBASSY RESIDENCE, WHICH AS BEEN THE SCENE OF TWO BURGLARIES IN RECENT MONTHS, IS MORE VULNERABLE DUE TO ITS RELATIVE ISOLATION AND THE SIZE OF THE PROPERTY. REQUESTS ARE PENDING FOR FUNDS TO INCREASE SECURITY LIGHTING AND REPLACE PERIMETER FENCE.

F. ROVING MOBILE PATROLS.

THIS IS NOT PRACTICAL DUE TO THE CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE BETWEEN LOCATIONS COVERED BY GUARD CONTRACT AND THE FACT THAT ALL PROPERTIES ARE ENCLOSED, RESTRICTING ACCESS BY VEHICLE. FURTHERMORE, THE LOCAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TERRAIN IS NOT CONDUCIVE TO THE USE OF RADIO EQUIPMENT.

G. CONTRACTOR HAS AGREED TO GIVE GUARDS MONTHLY TRAINING IN FIRST AID AND FIRE SAFETY. POST WILL INSURE THAT GUARDS ARE GIVEN SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS AS TO DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAINING WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH RSO.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF CENTRALIZED HOUSING RAISED IN PARA 4, REFTTEL, WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. ADEQUATE HOUSING IS SCARCE AND RESIDENTIAL AREAS ARE DISTANT FROM ONE ANOTHER. AT PRESENT, CENTRALIZED HOUSING IS UTILIZED ONLY AT A FOUR-UNIT STAFF APARTMENT COMPLEX, BUT THIS HAS HELPED REDUCE SECURITY GUARD REQUIREMENTS.

4. WE URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO GRANT OUR FUNDING REQUEST ASAP. TWO BURGLARIES HAVE OCCURRED AT EMBASSY RESIDENCES SINCE OUR INITIAL REQUEST WAS MADE. FURTHERMORE, DESPITE THIS REQUESTED INCREASE, POST'S GUARD CONTRACT IS CONSIDERABLY LESS EXPENSIVE THAN SIMILAR CONTRACTS AT OTHER ARA POSTS.
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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